

CLEAN VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

Claims 1, 2 and 10 should read as follows:

1. (amended) An orotidine-5'-phosphate decarboxylase gene having the sequence
SEQ ID NO: 1 or its homologs isolated from microorganisms which have at least
80% homology with the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1.
2. (amended) An orotidine-5'-phosphate decarboxylase gene having the sequence
SEQ ID NO: 1 or its homologs are isolated from *Ashbya gossypii*.
10. (twice amended) A process for inserting DNA into microorganisms, which comprises
inserting a vector which comprises an intact orotidine-5'-phosphate
decarboxylase gene having the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 or its homologs isolated
from microorganisms which have at least 80% homology with the sequence SEQ
ID NO: 1 as claimed in claim 1 together with at least one other nucleic acid
sequence, into a microorganism which is deficient in orotidine-5'-phosphate
decarboxylase nucleic acid sequence having the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 or its
homologs as claimed in claim 1 together with at least one other nucleic acid
sequence, into a microorganism which is deficient in orotidine-5'-phosphate
decarboxylase nucleic acid sequences, and cultivating this microorganism on or
in a culture medium without uracil.